

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-30 cancelled

31. (New) A method for determining and communicating schedule availability for a set of attendees, the method comprising:

receiving, at a server, an availability request from a wireless scheduling device, the server having access to calendar data for each attendee in the set of attendees;
in response to the availability request, conducting a search of the calendar data of each attendee of the set to produce an availability data set, wherein the availability data set is compact relative to the calendar data in that it generically indicates a subset of information selected from the calendar data, the subset of information including at least one of free space in an attendee's schedule and busy space in an attendee's schedule;
transmitting the availability data set to the wireless scheduling device via a wireless communication channel.

32. (New) The method of claim 31 further including: displaying data derived from the availability data set on the wireless scheduling device.

33. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein the data derived from the availability data set is displayed as free time and busy time.

34. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein the availability request is communicated to the server via a network.

35. (New) The method of claim 34 wherein the network includes the Internet.

36. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein the availability request includes an identifier for each attendee and a time period for which availability should be determined.

37. (New) The method of claim 36 wherein the identifier for each attendee is an email address.

38. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein the calendar data for each attendee is stored in a database communicatively coupled with the server.

39. (New) The method of claim 31 further including: scheduling an event based on the availability data set, in response to user input.

40. (New) The method of claim 39 wherein the event is scheduled using the wireless scheduling device.

41. (New) The method of claim 39 further including: updating the calendar data for each attendee with the scheduled event.

42. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein prior to conducting a search of the calendar data, the method further includes: requesting access to the calendar data for each attendee in the set of attendees, based on user input.

43. (New) The method of claim 42 wherein access to calendar data is requested via email over the Internet.

44. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein an indication of whether an attendee has granted permission to view the availability data of that attendee is stored in a database communicatively coupled with the server.

45. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein an attendee has granted permission to view the attendee's availability data only during a specified period of time.

46. (New) A system for determining schedule availability of a set of attendees using a wireless scheduling device, the system comprising:

- a first process, running on a server, for receiving an availability request from a wireless scheduling device in communication with the server, the server having access to calendar data for each attendee in the set of attendees;

- a second process, running on the server, for conducting a search of the calendar data of each attendee of the set to produce an availability data set in response to the availability request, wherein the availability data set is compact relative to the calendar data in that it generically indicates a subset of information selected from the calendar data, the subset of information including at least one of free space in an attendee's schedule and busy space in an attendee's schedule; and

- a third process, running on the server, for transmitting the availability data set to the

wireless scheduling device via a wireless communication channel.

47. (New) The system of claim 46 further including:

a fourth process, running on the wireless scheduling device, for communicating the availability request to the server; and

a fifth process, running on the wireless scheduling device, for displaying data derived from the availability data set on the wireless scheduling device

48. (New) The system of claim 47 wherein the data derived from the availability data set is displayed as free time and busy time.

49. (New) The system of claim 46 wherein the availability request is communicated to the server via a network.

50. (New) The system of claim 49 wherein the network includes the Internet.

51. (New) The system of claim 46 wherein the availability request includes an identifier for each attendee and a time period for which availability should be determined.

52. (New) The system of claim 46 wherein the identifier for each attendee is an email address.

53. (New) The system of claim 46 further comprising a database communicatively coupled with the server and for storing the calendar data for each attendee.

54. (New) A wireless scheduling device comprising:

availability logic for creating an availability request to determine schedule availability for a set of attendees;

transmission logic for communicating the availability request to a server, the server having access to calendar data for each attendee in the set of attendees; and

receiving logic for receiving, via a wireless communication channel, an availability data set produced at the server in response to the availability request, wherein the availability data set is compact relative to the calendar data in that it generically indicates a subset of information selected from the calendar data, the subset of information including at least one of free space in an attendee's schedule and busy space in an attendee's schedule.

55. (New) The wireless scheduling device of claim 54 further including: display logic for displaying data derived from the availability data set.

56. (New) The wireless scheduling device of claim 55 wherein the data derived from the availability data set is displayed as free time and busy time.

57. (New) The wireless scheduling device of claim 54 wherein the availability request includes an identifier for each of the attendees and a time period for which availability should be determined.

58. (New) The wireless scheduling device of claim 57 wherein the identifier for each attendee is an email address.